

Darkhorse Family,

First, I would like to personally thank the Darkhorse FRG for sending the Valentine's Day care package. The care package was a thoughtful gesture and much appreciated by the soldier's in D Company. Your thoughts, prayers and support do not go unnoticed.

The weather for the first part of February was generally wet and chilly. Flooding in our offices and living areas was a small inconvenience that had minimal impact. I'm sure that will be a distant memory in the upcoming months when the temperatures will increase into the 100's. We continue to prepare for the arrival of our aircraft from Ft. Hood and the departure of the 1-3 aircraft back to Savannah, Ga. We will also be happy with the arrival of CW4 Bill Miller.

Environmental Leave (EML), previously known as R and R, started in February. Our plan has every soldier going on EML. I will make every attempt to accommodate specific dates but I cannot guarantee a specific date. It is important to give soldiers the opportunity to take a break from an extremely high op tempo combat environment.

D company will have some much deserved promotions coming up in the month of March. 1LT Auger will be promoted to Captain, SGT Laboy to Staff Sergeant, CPL Cauley to Sergeant, PFC Peppers to Specialist, and SPC Pettit will be laterally promoted to Corporal.

We continue to meet challenges everyday with high success. We are a non-stop organization that maintains helicopters 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our mission and our lives revolve around the mission readiness of our 24 helicopters. We support a flying hour program that is 5 times of what a normal attack helicopter battalion flies in a year. We fly in one day what most battalions fly in one week. It takes a considerable amount of work and planning to execute such a demanding requirement. Along with that extraordinary task, we also have external requirements, such as guard duty and local national escort detail. Also, we continue to conduct split based operations in Kalsu as that mission continues to evolve. We continue to meet mission every day due to the hard work and quality of soldiers in D Company.

DARKHORSE!

"DARKHORSE 06"

Thad D. Weist

CPT, AV

